



January 7, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I would like to begin by stating that the scheme of breaking Microsoft should not have even been brought up. Since the conception of this suit, there has been an uncertainty of job security in the IT industry. It is vital that Microsoft and the DOJ work to push this issue through.

As you know, this settlement was arrived at after extensive negotiations with a court-appointed mediator present. In accordance to the settlement, Microsoft has agreed not to enter any agreements that would obligate any third party to distribute or promote any Windows technology exclusively or in a fixed percentage. Microsoft has also has agreed not to retaliate against computer makers that may ship software that would compete against the Windows operating system. This will make consumers happy, and ensure that competition reigns supreme.

I believe that it is too early to feel comfortable regarding this settlement. But, it is also necessary to resolve this issue so that the economy and the industry may continue to move forward during this stagnant time in our Nation's history. It is time to allow Microsoft to return to innovation.

Sincerely,

Randall Jarrell
Webmaster

5030 First Avenue South, Seattle, WA 98134
Tel: (206) 268-9800 Fax: (206) 268-9801 Email: info@essention.com

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